Dossier: HA-1112 & Panzer IV Parts — Spanish Exports to Middle East (Evidence, Excerpts, and Archival Leads)

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Scope and purpose

This dossier compiles open-source documentary leads, declassified excerpts, and provenance evidence suggesting that Spanish-origin HA-1112 aircraft and WWII German Panzer IV tanks/parts were transferred from Spain to Middle Eastern buyers (notably Syria and possibly Egypt) during the 1950s–1960s. It also provides archival action steps to obtain primary export-license scans and manifest/serial-number confirmation.

Executive findings (condensed)

• HA-1112 (Hispano Aviación license-built Bf 109 derivatives): strong production and registry records exist for Spanish-built examples; secondary sources and airframe dossiers document international movements of individual airframes but a clear Spanish government export contract to Egypt in the 1950s remains elusive in open sources.

• Panzer IV tanks / parts: multiple specialist and hobbyist sources indicate Spain supplied at least 17 Panzer IV Ausf H tanks to Syria (delivered Dec 1965 per several hobbyist reconstructions). Documentary confirmation is likely present in Spanish AGA export ledgers and in US/UK embassy cables.

Key primary/archival sources (links and excerpted passages)

1) FRUS (Foreign Relations of the United States), 1952–54 — discussion of arms to Egypt and allied concerns

Excerpt (FRUS document D1064): 'Byroade emphasized our approach somewhat different. We felt that stakes in Egypt are such that we must be prepared take risks and give concrete evidence of our good faith... British reacted strongly to this suggestion.' (See: Office of the Historian, FRUS 1952–54, Document D1064).

Link: https://history.state.gov/historicaldocuments/frus1952-54v09p2/d1064

2) 'Panzers in the Golan Heights' — WW2AfterWWII (compilation of sources & serial claims)

Excerpt: 'For certain, seventeen of Syria’s Panzer IVs came from Spain, which kept detailed export records down to the individual serial numbers... All were delivered to Syria in December 1965.' (wwiiafterwwii.wordpress.com).

Link: https://wwiiafterwwii.wordpress.com/2016/09/04/panzers-in-the-golan-heights/

3) CIA Reading Room — regional arms flow memoranda (examples)

Representative CIA memos discuss large-scale arms acquisitions by Egypt and Syria in the 1967–73 period and identify Western suppliers and sources of spare parts; these memos corroborate the pattern of Western-origin equipment (including spare parts) being available to Arab states. Search the CIA Reading Room for 'Spain Panzer', 'Spain spare parts', 'Egypt arms Spain'.

Example search portal: https://www.cia.gov/readingroom/advanced-search-view

Spanish archival traces & actionable references

• Archivo General de la Administración (AGA / PARES): AGA holds Commerce and Export files from the Franco era. Example citation found in secondary literature: 'Archivo General de la Administración, Comercio, Caja 36.572, Expediente 17' — cited in '50 años de relaciones entre España y Estados Unidos' (use AGA reference to request export license copies for 1954–1966).

• INI / SEPI historic fonds: engineering, shipyard and arms-industry correspondence may be held in SEPI/INI collections (see: 'Los Fondos Históricos del INI').

• Spanish Ministry of Defence and Servicio Histórico Militar: procurement, inventory and disposal lists for WWII-era captured German equipment (Panzer IV, StuG III) may be in the Military Historical Service (Servicio Histórico Militar) in Madrid.

Provenance evidence: serial numbers, manifests, and registries (what exists online now)

• Hobbyist reconstructions (wwiiafterwwii, SecretProjects) claim Spanish export records include serial numbers for 17 Panzer IVs sold to Syria in Dec 1965. These sources often reproduce or transcribe serial lists purportedly from Spanish records; they are leads that need archival confirmation. (See WW2AfterWWII link above and SecretProjects thread.)

• HA-1112 airframe dossiers on AerialVisuals document civil registrations, owner transfers and export movements of individual HA-1112 airframes — useful to trace particular airframes that left Spain for Middle Eastern operators or owners. Example: https://www.aerialvisuals.ca/AirframeDossier.php?Serial=136171

Embedded excerpts (direct quoted lines from sources)

From WW2AfterWWII: 'For certain, seventeen of Syria's Panzer IVs came from Spain, which kept detailed export records down to the individual serial numbers... All were delivered to Syria in December 1965.'

From FRUS D1064: 'Byroade emphasized our approach somewhat different... British reacted strongly to this suggestion.' (document discusses US/UK concerns about supplying arms and mentions regional sourcing.)

What I fetched and embedded

• Direct links to FRUS Document D1064 and to the WW2AfterWWII article (above).

• CIA Reading Room portal link and guidance on keyword searches.

Next steps I can perform (I did NOT find these in full online; they require requests):

1) **Request and obtain scanned export-license files** from AGA/PARES: file 'Comercio, Caja 36.572, Expediente 17' and related 'expedientes de comercio exterior' for 1954–1966. This typically requires a PARES digital request or an in-person/archive staff retrieval. I can draft the Spanish-language request text you can submit to PARES.

2) **Order declassified U.S. embassy cables and State microfiche** from the State Department FOIA/NGO microfiche or the U.S. National Archives. Many cables are digitized—if you want, I can pull the specific FRUS adjacent documents and fetch full PDFs where available. (I have already linked D1064 above.)

3) **Verify Panzer IV serials** by requesting the specific AGA export bundle or Spanish Ministry of Defense disposal lists that the hobbyist sources reference. This is the most direct way to get serial numbers and manifest entries.

Spanish-language PARES request — template (ready to send)

Below is a draft Spanish request you can submit to PARES or send to an archival researcher to retrieve the likely export licences and manifests. Copy-paste and edit as needed.

Señoras y señores del Archivo General de la Administración (PARES):
Solicito la localización y digitalización (o copia) del expediente correspondiente a:
- Caja: 36.572, Expediente: 17 (Comercio exterior / Exportaciones, 1954–1966)
- Expedientes sobre 'vehículos blindados', 'repuestos blindados', 'aeronaves HA-1112 / Hispano Aviación', 'materias explosivas' y 'material bélico' del periodo 1954–1966.
Motivo: investigación histórica sobre exportaciones de material militar desde España a países del Norte de África y Oriente Medio (ej. Siria, Egipto) en el periodo posbélico.
Atentamente, [Su nombre]

Recommended deliverables I can prepare next (pick any)

A. I will file/submit FOIA and PARES requests and attach the scanned results to an updated PDF. (This may take archive processing time.)
B. I will draft and send you a prioritized list of exact cables (State/CIA) to FOIA or download where available.
C. I will attempt to contact Spanish archival staff to request copies (for a fee) and add the scans to a final PDF.

Appendix: Links compiled in this PDF (clickable)

Title	URL
FRUS D1064 (Office of the Historian)	https://history.state.gov/historicaldocuments/frus1952-54v09p2/d1064
WW2AfterWWII: Panzers in the Golan Heights	https://wwiiafterwwii.wordpress.com/2016/09/04/panzers-in-the-golan-heights
CIA Reading Room (advanced search)	https://www.cia.gov/readingroom/advanced-search-view
AerialVisuals HA-1112 dossier example	https://www.aerialvisuals.ca/AirframeDossier.php?Serial=136171
PARES (AGA catalog)	https://pares.mcu.es/ParesBusquedas20/catalogo/description/167455/imprim

Prepared and compiled by ChatGPT based on open-source and declassified leads. If you want me to file the archival requests and FOIA filings on your behalf, tell me and I will draft the required forms and language for submission.